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PO1/GB2005/001201



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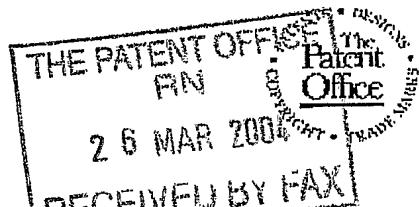
Signed

Dated 20 April 2005

Andrew Garside



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Patents Act 1977
(Rule 16)26MAR04 E684195-1 D02835
P01/7700 0.00-0406820.1 NONE

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The Patent Office

Cardiff Road
Newport
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NP10 8QQ

1. Your reference

SMR/MAW/P560866

2. Patent application number

0406820.1

(The Patent Office will fill in this part)

26 MAR 2004

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)

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Patents ADP number (if you know it)

7388242001

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

4. Title of the invention

GOLF CLUB GRIP

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

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413 Midsummer Boulevard
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Patents ADP number (if you know it)

73844008 ✓ 8857161001

6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number

Country Priority application number
(if you know it) Date of filing
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7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application

Number of earlier application Date of filing
(day / month / year)8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if -
a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or
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Description

3

Claim(s)

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Abstract

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2

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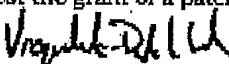
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11.

I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature 

Date 26.03.04.

URQUHART-DYKES & LORD

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

SIMON RAYNOR - 01908 655645

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DUPLICATE**GOLF CLUB GRIP**

The present invention relates to a grip for a golf club and in particular, but not exclusively, for a putter. The invention also relates to a golf club that includes the grip.

- 5 Most modern putters are fitted with a grip that is made from a rubber or latex material and is typically approximately 10" (260mm) long and tapers from a width of 0.8" (20mm) and a depth of 1" (25mm) at its upper end to a width of 0.6" (15mm) and a depth of 0.6"(15mm) at its lower end. The grip is hollow, allowing it to be fitted over the steel shaft of a golf club.
- 10 The putter is normally held with one hand slightly above the other and the thumbs on top of the grip, with the fingers underneath. The hands may be partially overlapping. With an orthodox grip, a right-handed player will place the left hand towards the upper end of the grip, and right hand below. Alternatively, a reverse grip may be adopted with the positions of the hands reversed. In either case, because the hands are at different heights, the player's shoulders will not be level when addressing the ball. This can make it more difficult to strike the ball in the intended direction.

Another disadvantage of most existing putter grips is that the length of the grip cannot be adjusted, except by removing a portion from the lower end of the grip. As the grip is tapered, this can leave an unsightly step at the point where the shaft enters the grip.

- 15
- 20 According to a first aspect of the invention, there is provided a grip for a golf club that has an increased width as compared to a conventional golf club grip. This allows the hands to be placed level with one another, with the two thumbs side-by-side on top of the grip. This allows the player to address the ball with the shoulders level, which may result in an improved putting stroke.
- 25 Advantageously, the maximum width of the grip is in the range of 30-60mm, and preferably 40-50mm. For example, the grip may have a maximum width of approximately 42mm. Advantageously, the grip includes a wide portion having a length in the range 150-300mm, preferably 180-250mm. For example, the wide portion may have a length of approximately 195mm.

The grip may also include a tapered portion at its lower end. The overall length of the grip may be in the range 200-400mm, preferably 250-300mm. For example, the grip may have an overall length of approximately 270mm.

According to a second aspect of the invention, the grip includes an elongate body member 5 and a separate end cap for attachment to the upper end of the body member. This allows the length of the grip to be adjusted by cutting a portion from the upper end of the body member and then attaching the end cap. This provides a more satisfactory method of adjusting the length than simply removing a portion from the lower end of a grip. Advantageously, the body member has a portion of uniform cross-section at its upper end. 10 The end cap may include locating formations for engagement with the body member. For example, the end cap may include lugs that engage elongate bores provided in the body member.

An embodiment of the invention will be now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

15 Figure 1 is an isometric view of a golf club grip;

Figure 2 is an end view of the lower end of the grip;

Figure 3 is a side view of the grip;

Figure 4 is an end view of the upper end of the grip;

Figure 5 is a front view of the grip;

20 Figure 6 is a front view of the main body member of the grip, showing its internal structure;

Figure 7 is a side view of the body member, showing its internal structure;

Figure 8 is an end view of the upper end of the body member; and

Figure 9 is an isometric view of the end cap.

The grip is made of a suitable elastomeric or resilient material such as rubber, latex or a plastics material and includes an elongate body member 2 that fits over the shaft of the golf club (not shown) and an end cap 4, which is subsequently attached to the upper end 6 of the body member 2, for example by gluing. In the example, the grip has an overall length of

282mm, the body member 2 having a length of 270mm and the end cap 4 having a thickness of 12mm.

The body member 2 includes an upper portion 8 of uniform cross-section, which extends from the upper end 6 of the body member for a length of 195mm, and a lower portion 10 which tapers to a diameter of approximately 15mm at its lower end 11. The cross-section of the upper portion 8 is approximately rectangular, having a width of 42mm and a depth of 28mm. The front face 12 is flat and the rear face 14 is slightly convex, the four corners being rounded.

A cylindrical bore 16 having a diameter of 14.5mm extends through the body member 2 to receive the shaft of the golf club. In addition, two parallel smaller secondary bores 18, each having a diameter of 5mm, extend from the upper end of the body member 2 to a depth of 130mm, the secondary bores being provided on either side of the main bore 16.

The end cap 4 is of similar cross-sectional shape to the upper end of the body member 2 and includes on its lower face 20 two cylindrical bores 22, which are positioned for engagement in the secondary bores 18 of the body member 2.

The length of the grip can be adjusted by cutting off a portion of the grip from the upper end of the body member 2 and then attaching the end cap to the cut end and gluing it in place. Because the secondary bores 18 extend for a considerable depth into the body member 2, the end cap 4 can be correctly positioned by engaging the locating lugs 22 in the secondary bores 18, even if quite a large portion of the grip is removed.

In use, the grip is held with the hands level and the two thumbs side-by-side on the front face 12 of the grip, with the fingers curled underneath around the rear face 14. This allows the golfer to adopt a stance with the shoulders completely level, which helps to produce a smooth and accurate stroke.

Various modifications of the grip are of course possible. For example, the grip may have a width of between 30mm and 60mm, but is preferably between 40mm and 50mm, and it may have an overall length in the range 200-400mm, preferably 250-300mm. The upper portion of the grip, which has a uniform cross-section, may be between 150mm and 300mm in length, and is preferably between 180mm and 250mm.



1/2

Fig. 4



Fig. 5

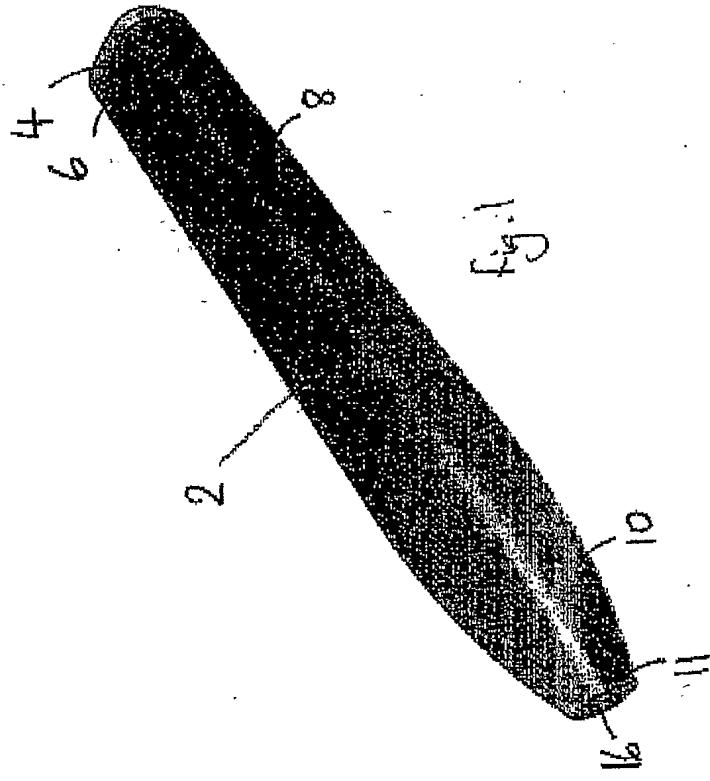
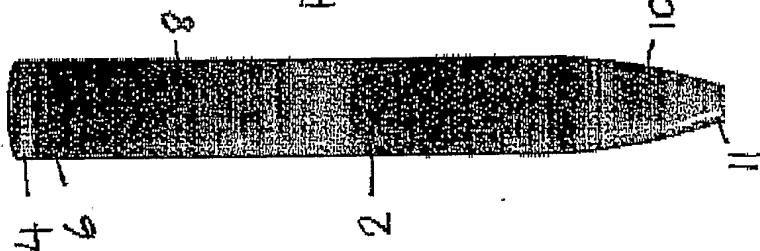


Fig. 1

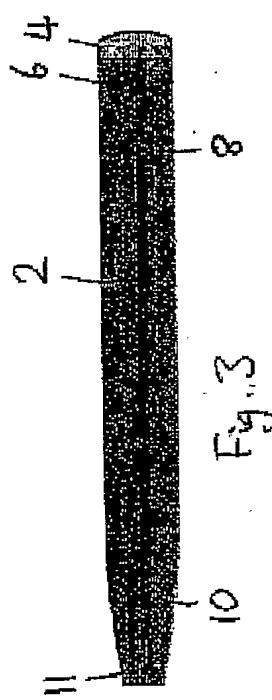


Fig. 3

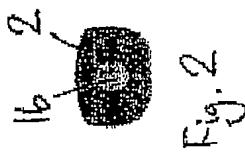


Fig. 2



2/2

